

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, with sufficient postage, as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
on March 24, 2004

Date of Deposit

Scott W. Brim, Reg. No. 51,500

Name of applicant, assignee or
Registered Representative

Scott W. Brim

Signature

3/24/04

Date of Signature

Our Case No. 10367/2123

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Patterson et al.

Serial No. 10/675,284

Filing Date: September 30, 2003

For APPLIANCE FOR VACUUM
SEALING FOOD CONTAINERS

Group Art Unit No. To Be Assigned

STATUS INQUIRY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

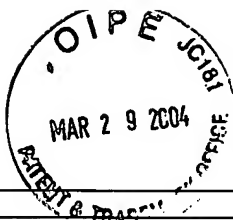
Applicants filed the above-identified application on September 30, 2004, but has not yet received a Filing Receipt, Notice to File Missing Parts, or a first Office Action. Please advise the undersigned attorney as to when a communication is expected to issue on this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott W. Brim

Scott W. Brim
Registration No. 51,500
Attorney for Applicants

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
P.O. BOX 10395
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610
(312) 321-4200



| TRANSMITTAL LETTER | | | Case No. 10367/2123 |
|---|------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Serial No. 10/675,284 | Filing Date 9/30/03 | Examiner To Be Assigned | Group Art Unit To Be Assigned |
| Inventor(s) Justine C. Patterson, Salvatore R. Siano, and Chi Kin John Mak | | | |
| Title of Invention APPLIANCE FOR VACUUM SEALING FOOD CONTAINERS | | | |

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Transmitted herewith is A Transmittal Letter (in duplicate); Status Inquiry; and White Acknowledgement Postcard.

- ☐ Small entity status of this application under 37 CFR § 1.27 has been established by verified statement previously submitted.
- ☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.
- ☐ Petition for a _____ month extension of time.
- ☒ No additional fee is required.
- ☐ The fee has been calculated as shown below:

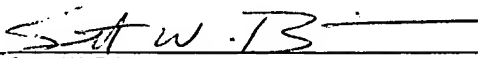
| | Claims Remaining After Amendment | | Highest No. Previously Paid For | Present Extra |
|---|---|-------|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| Total | | Minus | | |
| Indep. | | Minus | | |
| First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim | | | | |

| Small Entity | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Rate | Add'l Fee |
| x \$9= | |
| x 43= | |
| +\$145= | |
| Total add'l fee | \$ |

| Other Than Small Entity | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Rate | Add'l Fee |
| x \$18= | |
| x \$86= | |
| + \$290= | |
| Total add'l fee | \$ |

- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 (BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE) in the amount of \$_____. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$_____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☒ I hereby petition under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) for any extension of time required to ensure that this paper is timely filed. Please charge any associated fees which have not otherwise been paid to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



Scott W. Brim
Registration No. 51,500
Attorney for Applicant
Customer No. 00757 - Brinks Hofer Gilson Lione

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Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 24, 2004.

Date: 3/24/04

Signature: 